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Application No. 09/554,617

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kazuyoshi ARAI et al.

Group Art Unit : 1753

Appl. No. : 09/554,617

Examiner : A.S. Phasge

I.A. Filed : October 4, 1999

For : PRODUCTION METHOD OF DETERGENT  
AND PRODUCING APPARATUS

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed March 26, 2003, which sets a three month shortened statutory period for response until June 26, 2003. Applicants note that an extension of time for three months to extend the period for response until September 26, 2003 was filed on September 26, 2003 accompanied by a Notice of Appeal which provides an initial two month period for submitting an Appeal Brief.

This is an express request for any required extension of time to maintain the pendency of the application, and authorization to charge any required extension of time fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Entry of the instant amendment with reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.